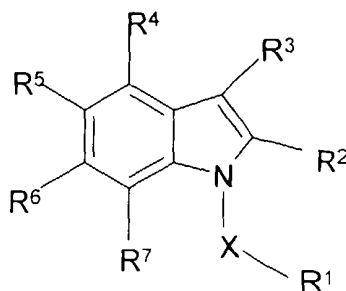


In the claims:

1. (currently amended) A compound of formula (I)

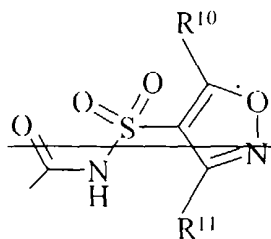


(I)

X is CH<sub>2</sub> or SO<sub>2</sub>

R<sup>1</sup> is an optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl ring;

R<sup>2</sup> is carboxy, cyano, -C(O)CH<sub>2</sub>OH, -CONHR<sup>8</sup>, -SO<sub>2</sub>NHR<sup>9</sup>, tetrazol-5-yl, or SO<sub>3</sub>H, or a group of formula (VI)



(VI)

where R<sup>8</sup> is selected from hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, cyano, hydroxy, -SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>12</sup> where R<sup>12</sup> is alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, or haloalkyl, or R<sup>8</sup> is a group -(CH(R<sup>13</sup>))<sub>r</sub>-COOH where r is an integer of 1-3 and each R<sup>13</sup> group is independently selected from hydrogen or alkyl; R<sup>9</sup> is hydrogen, alkyl, optionally substituted aryl such as optionally substituted phenyl or optionally substituted heteroaryl such as 5 or 6 membered heteroaryl groups, or a group COR<sup>14</sup> where R<sup>14</sup> is alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or haloalkyl; R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> are independently selected from hydrogen or alkyl, particularly C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl;

R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen, a functional group, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted alkenyl, optionally substituted alkynyl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted heterocycl-

optionally substituted alkoxy, optionally substituted aralkyl, optionally substituted aralkyloxy, or optionally substituted cycloalkyl;

$R^4$  is a group  $\text{NHCOR}^{15}$ , or  $\text{NHISO}_2\text{R}^{15}$  ~~or~~  $\text{OCONR}^{16}\text{R}^{17}$  where  $\text{R}^{15}$  is optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted aryl or optionally substituted heteroaryl and  $\text{R}^{16}$  and  $\text{R}^{17}$  ~~are independently selected from hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted aryl and optionally substituted heteroaryl, with the proviso that at least one of  $\text{R}^{16}$  or  $\text{R}^{17}$  is other than hydrogen, or  $\text{R}^{16}$  and  $\text{R}^{17}$  together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form an optionally substituted heterocyclic ring which optionally contains further heteroatoms;~~ and

$\text{R}^5$ ,  $\text{R}^6$  and  $\text{R}^7$  are independently selected from hydrogen, a functional group or an optionally substituted hydrocarbyl group ~~groups or optionally substituted heterocyclic groups;~~

and further provided that when  $\text{R}^4$  is a group  $\text{NHCOR}^{15}$ ,  $\text{R}^{15}$  is substituted alkyl, optionally substituted aryl or optionally substituted heteroaryl.

2. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 wherein a group  $\text{R}^{15}$ ,  ~~$\text{R}^{16}$  and  $\text{R}^{17}$~~  as they appear as it appears in the definition of  $\text{R}^4$ , is substituted by at least one functional group, or an aryl or heterocyclyl group ~~groups~~, either of which may themselves be substituted by one or more functional groups or further aryl or heterocyclyl groups.

3. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein  $\text{R}^4$  is a group  $\text{NHCOR}^{15}$  ~~or~~  $\text{NHISO}_2\text{R}^{15}$  and  $\text{R}^{15}$  is a substituted alkyl group or an optionally substituted heterocyclyl substituted heterocyclyl or optionally substituted phenyl group.

4. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 3 wherein  $\text{R}^{15}$  is alkyl substituted by a group of formula  $\text{NR}^{19}\text{R}^{20}$  where  $\text{R}^{19}$  and  $\text{R}^{20}$  are independently selected from hydrogen or optionally substituted hydrocarbyl, or  $\text{R}^{19}$  and  $\text{R}^{20}$  together form an optionally substituted ring which optionally contains further heteroatoms such as  $\text{S}(\text{O})_m$ , oxygen and nitrogen, n is an integer of 1 or 2, and m is 1 or 2.

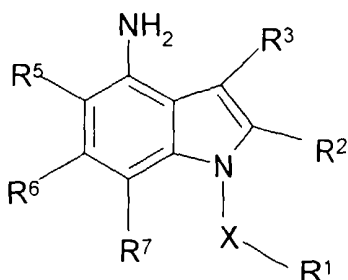
5. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 where  $\text{R}^2$  is carboxy.

6. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein  $R^1$  is 3,4-dichlorophenyl, 3-fluoro-4-chlorophenyl, 3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl or 2,3-dichloropyrid-5-yl.

7. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 where X is  $CH_2$ .

8. (currently amended) A process for preparing a compound according to claim 1 which process comprises ~~either~~

(a) ~~where  $R^4$  is  $NHCOR^{15}$  or  $NHSO_2R^{15}$~~ ; reacting a compound of formula (VII)



(VII)

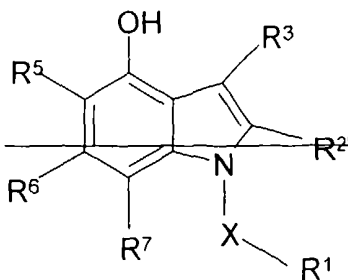
where X,  $R^1$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^5$ ,  $R^6$  and  $R^7$  are as defined in claim 1, and  $R^2$  is a group  $R^2$  as defined in relation to formula (I) or a protected form thereof, with a compound of formula (VIII)



(VIII)

where Z is a leaving group and  $R^{22}$  is a group  $COR^{15'}$  or  $SO_2R^{15'}$  where  $R^{15'}$  is group  $R^{15}$  as defined in relation to formula (I) or a precursor thereof;

~~or (b) where  $R^4$  is a group  $OC(=O)NR^{16}R^{17}$~~ ; reacting a compound of formula (VIIA)



(VIA)

where ~~X, R<sup>21</sup>, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>7</sup>~~ are as defined claim 1 and R<sup>2</sup> is a group R<sup>2</sup> as defined in claim 1 or a protected form thereof, with a compound of formula (VIA)



(VIA)

where ~~Z, R<sup>16</sup> and R<sup>17</sup>~~ are as defined above;

and thereafter if desired or necessary:

- (i) converting a precursor group R<sup>15'</sup> to a group R<sup>15</sup> and/or converting a group R<sup>15</sup> to a different such group; and
- (ii) deprotecting a group R<sup>2'</sup> to a group R<sup>2</sup>.

9. (currently amended) ~~A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

10. (currently amended) A method for antagonizing an MCP-1 (Monocyte Chemoattractant Protein-1) or RANTES (Regulated upon Activation, Normal T-cell Expressed and Secreted) mediated effect in a warm blooded animal in need of such treatment comprising administering to said animal an effective amount of aA compound according to any one of claims 1 to 7 claim 1, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, or an *in vivo* hydrolysable ester thereof, ~~for use in the preparation of a medicament for use in the treatment of disease mediated by monocyte chemoattractant protein-1 or RANTES (Regulated upon Activation, Normal T-cell Expressed and Secreted), such as inflammatory disease.~~

11. (new) A method for treating inflammation in a warm blooded animal in need of such treatment comprising administering to said animal an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, or an *in vivo* hydrolysable ester thereof.